

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01     TEHRAN 12697 230929Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
----- 103814 /15  
R 230732Z DEC 76  
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 581  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T TEHRAN 12697

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: EGEN, PDEV, RH  
SUBJ: ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND

REF: STATE 304674

1. DCM, IN LIEU OF AMBASSADOR WHO HAD OTHER UNAVOIDABLE COMMITMENTS, MET WITH MFA UNDERSECRETARY NADIM MORNING OF DECEMBER 23 AND PRESENTED HIM WITH JOINT US-UK LETTER, A PAPER PRESENTING OUR PROPOSAL FOR A ZIMBABWE DEVELOPMENT FUND, AND ANNEXES 1 AND 2, AS INSTRUCTED REFTEL. IN DOING SO DCM ALSO MADE POINTS IN PARA 3 REFTEL. NADIM CAREFULLY READ THE LETTER AND THE PROPOSAL. HE SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY CONVEY IT TO FOREIGN MINISTER KHALATBARY AND LET US KNOW OF HIS REACTION. IN THE MEANTIME, HOWEVER, HE SAID HE FELT CONSTRAINED TO POINT OUT THAT IRAN MIGHT BE A LITTLE MORE RECEPTIVE TO OUR PROPOSAL IF WE WERE A LITTLE MORE UNDERSTANDING ABOUT ITS POSITION ON THE NEED TO INCREASE OIL PRICES. NOW, BECAUSE OF THE SPLIT POSITION THAT EMERGED FROM THE DOHA OPEC CONFERENCE IRAN WAS UNCERTAIN WHAT ITS FINANCIAL PROSPECTS MIGHT BE. NADIM SAID FLATLY THAT IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA WERE ON A COLLISION COURSE ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT IT REMAINED TO BE SEEN WHO WAS GOING TO WIN. HE WENT ON TO SAY THAT IN PRINCIPLE HE THOUGHT IT WAS IN IRAN'S INTEREST TO HELP

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AND THAT A \$10 MILLION A YEAR CONTRIBUTION SEEMED REASONABLE. HE REPEATED, HOWEVER, THAT UNTIL THE UNCERTAINTY OVER OIL PRICES AND IRAN'S FINANCIAL PROSPECTS WERE RESOLVED, IT WAS UNLIKELY THAT IRAN WOULD MAKE A COMMITMENT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER AND CERTAINLY NOT BEFORE JANUARY 1.

2. FOREGOING WAS CONVEYED IN FRIENDLIEST POSSIBLE WAY  
BUT WE BELIEVE IT REASONABLE TO ASSUME THAT SIMILAR  
POSITION WILL BE TAKEN BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE  
SHAH AS OUR PROPOSAL IS PASSED UP THE LINE. IN PASSING,  
NADIM WONDERED WHY NO LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES SUCH AS  
VENEZUELA WERE BEING APPROACHED. DCM SAID THAT HE HAD  
NO IDEA WHY THEY WERE NOT INCLUDED.  
HELMS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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